A.—A report has been received from the Board of Revenue on the subject and is under the consideration of the Government.

Kumki privileges of ryots in South Kanara.

* 21 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that several holdings of ryots near reserves in South Kanara have no kumki privileges?

A.—The Government have not the information.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"May I know whether the Government cannot get this information?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"I do not think that any useful purpose will be served by obtaining the information."

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"May I know, Sir, why the hon. Member thinks that no useful purpose will be served by getting this information?" (Laughter.)

Restrictions on the privilege of taking timber from kumki lands.

* 22 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. Karant: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are orders preventing a kumkidar from taking with the permission of Government any timber he requires from kumki for building his house in a different village from the one in which the kumki is situated;

(*b*) whether such restrictions have been recently made and if so, since when, and for what reasons; and

(*c*) whether Government propose to restore the privilege, and if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) The permission of the Collector is necessary. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the following rule framed under section 26 of the Madras Forest Act:—

(Rule 7-A at page 38 of the Forest Manual—available in the Council Library.)

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"The holder of land to which kumki privileges are attached may enjoy in the kumki land free of charge such privileges as he has hitherto enjoyed in the way of grazing cattle, or of cutting, converting, collecting and removing trees, timber and other forest produce, subject to the following conditions:—

(1) That the trees, timber and other forest produce shall be used only for agricultural or domestic purposes *in the village* in which the kumki land is situated, or in such other villages as the Collector may permit in writing. It shall be open to the Collector to decide, either generally or in special cases, what shall be considered agricultural or domestic purposes within the meaning of this rule."

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